

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the performance of a thorough search.

By this amendment, Claims 1, 8, 9, 11-14 and 16-20 have been amended. Claims 5 and 15 have been cancelled. Hence, Claims 1-4, 5-14 and 16-20 are pending in the application.

101 REJECTION

Claims 11-20 were rejected under 35 USC 101 on the grounds that they covered transmission media, which is currently considered to be non-statutory subject matter. In response, these claims have been amended to cover only computer-readable **storage** media (e.g. volatile and non-volatile memory), thereby excluding transmission media. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 5, 8-9, 15 and 18-19 were identified as allowable if rewritten in independent form. The content of Claim 5 has been moved to Claim 1, thereby rendering Claim 1 allowable for the same reasons that Claim 5 was allowable. Claim 5 has been cancelled.

Claims 8 and 9 have been rewritten as suggested, and are therefore allowable.

The remaining claims depend on Claims 1, 8, or 9, and are therefore also allowable.

The dependent claims introduce limitations that independently render them patentable over the art of record. However, to expedite the positive disposition of the present application, separate arguments are not made for the dependent claims at this time.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claims 1-4, 6-7, 10-14, 16-17 and 20 were rejected under 102(e) based on Garner. These rejections are no longer at issue due to the amendments made herein.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,
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